

"ORGANIZE TO AVERT HUMAN SLAUGHTER," SAYS JANE ADDAMS IN PEACE ADDRESS

BY JANE ADDAMS.

(From an Address Before the Second Annual Peace Congress, Chicago.)

Men very early learned to do things together, because they were obliged to fight together; one of the things which war bequeathed to mankind and to the male portion of mankind was this ability to go out together, to go in tribes, to go in phalanxes, to go in regiments; to go in whatever body of men was the safest to those who were fighting, and to bring the most destruction to those whom they were fighting against.

But we women never had this training. It is said that even when women were used as beasts of burden, which began very early, one woman always went by herself or went with another beast, but two women never pulled together.

Whether this is true or not, I think it is certainly true that the thing which is happening now to this special generation of women is the ability and the learning how to act together.

At last women are learning to pull together, to pull in bodies. We may call those bodies clubs or we may call them benefit societies, or we may call them this, that and the other, but they are all bodies of women as such, and they are going out to do away with such evil as they see and to bring about such good as they may be able to perform.

There is one thing which the theory of evolution has given to us. It is very hard for us to detach ourselves from the past. That is, whether we call ourselves evolutionists or not, whether we think much about it or not, it has so changed our point of view that unconsciously we realize we are children of the past.

The things which we are now are the results of the things which have gone before us. If at last in the fullness of time it has come about that

Anglo-Saxon women have received a larger measure of freedom, if they can go to clubs without being accused by the men of their family, or by the newspapers, which are often much worse, of neglecting their children at home, in their cradles; if various things have happened so that we can



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without detaching ourselves too much from the past, organize into these clubs and movements, it is now up to us—if I may use that phrase—to see what we are going to do with this power of organization and with this new ability to act together.

If men learned it in fighting, it may be harder for them to forget the method by which they learned it. It